

**Illinois Early Learning Council
Family Engagement Subcommittee**

**Family Focus - Aurora
550 Second Ave
Aurora, IL 60505**

AND

**Ounce of Prevention – Small Training Room
2800 Montvale Drive
Springfield, IL 62704**

November 1, 2016 • 10:00am – 12:00pm

Agenda

Dial: +1 408 638 0968

Meeting ID: 582 421 854

- I. Welcome and Introductions (15 minutes)** **Trish Rooney & Ms. Harris**
Janet Vargas, Marquinta Thomas, Kathy Villano, Maureen McMurrdugh, Trish Rooney, Kassia Eide, Bonnie Farmer, Sofia Bobak, Carmen Garcia, Peggy Kiefer, Joanna Su, Antoinette Rice White, Rosalva Nava, Yeny Duran, Vaness Castro, Debra Floyd, Yolanda Williams, Marianne Pokorny, Alyse Plattos, Katrina Falkner, Sara Gonzalez, Noemi Perez Jordan, Silvia Marinez, Monica Ruiz, Fiona Anderson, Ms. Harris, Diane Gibson, Peggy McGuire
- a. Approve October 3, 2016 Meeting Minutes
 - b. Ice Breaker
- II. Review Parent Survey Draft (20 minutes)** **Ms. Harris**
a. What are the next steps for the survey?
b. The subcommittee review the survey and made some suggestions about updating the phrase early childhood system or including a definition of what that means. The subcommittee also suggested that the survey go out with a coversheet that includes the purpose of the survey and directions on the questions. (see attached for revised questions and cover sheet) The survey and cover sheet will be sent to the co-chairs for edits and then out to the full subcommittee for distribution.
- III. Presentation and Discussion Early Learning Council Structure (60 minutes)** **Joanna Su**
a. Joanna Su gave a presentation to explain the vision, mission, and structure of the Early Learning Council. The subcommittee then worked to identify what they thought the most important problems in early childhood are that need to be addressed. The problems identified, for the most part, fell into the four committees of the ELC. They are:
 - i. Integration and Alignment
 - 1. Stable and adequate funding
 - 2. Cross referrals among programs
 - 3. System navigation
 - 4. Program eligibility requirements

- 5. Meeting deliverables vs. serving families and alignment
- ii. Access
 - 1. Support for grandparents raising young children
 - 2. Accessible (cost and time)
 - 3. Transportation
 - 4. Mental health services
 - 5. Special education access and support for families
 - 6. IEP Support
 - 7. Support for fathers
 - 8. Waiting lists
 - 9. Social/emotional support for families in need
 - 10. Training for parents
- iii. Home Visiting
 - 1. Programs for children birth to three
- iv. Quality
 - 1. Cost
 - 2. Lack of available spots
 - 3. Not enough programs for two year olds
 - 4. Not enough interest from providers in engaging parents
 - 5. More educational activities for parents
 - 6. More home visits
 - 7. More interest in the education of the child
 - 8. More staff prepared to educate and orient parents
- v. Other areas of concern
 - 1. Teen pregnancy
 - 2. Support for families in crisis
 - 3. Need more parent voice at the table
 - 4. Increase awareness of the importance of early childhood
 - 5. Provider and parent partnership
- b. After seeing the structure of the ELC the subcommittee thought it showed that we need a place for parents outside of it as well. It was suggested that some areas this group could focus recommendations on within the ELC are:
 - i. The new structure -where and how parents fit in
 - ii. Dedicating the swing seats on the Executive Board to parent representation

IV. Next Steps (15 minutes)

Trish Rooney & Ms. Harris

- a. What did you get out of this meeting?
- b. At the next meeting Head Start and ISBE will give an overview of their parent engagement frameworks.